# Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 ACDA-12 /088 W

-----056950 101510Z /41

O R 101107Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 495
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 JERUSALEM 718

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PBOR, IS, JO

SUBJ: ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST BANK - CURRENT UPDATE

REF: 77 JERUSALEM A-14

- 1. THIS TELEGRAM SUMMARIZES JERUSALEM A-7 WHICH PROVIDES AN UP-TO-DATE AND COMPREHENSIVE PICTURE OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY ON THE WEST BANK AND A WRAP-UP OF DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE TENURE OF THE LIKUD GOI.
- 2. BY OUR ESTIMATES, ABOUT 6,500 ISRAELIS NOW LIVE IN 47 SETTLEMENTS ACROSS THE 1949 ARMISTICE LINE ON THE WEST BANK. FOUR ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENTS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.
- 3. DURING ITS TENURE, THE LIKUD HAS NOW INITIATED OR ALLOWED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SETTLEMENT OR QUASI-SETTLEMENT AT 14 SITES ON THE WEST BANK AND TWO IN NO MAN'S LAND. THREE EXISTING UNAUTHORIZED SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN LEGITIMIZED. WITHIN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS ON THE GROUND HAVE BEEN:

(A) SETTLEMENT OR PRE-SETTLEMENT AT ELEVEN SITES IN THE RELATIVELY DENSELY-POPULATED NORTHERN HALF OF THE WEST BANK (SAMARIA);

(B) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LABOR GOI'S PLAN TO CREATE A WESTERN LINE, INCLUDING FOUR NEW SETTLEMENTS, WHICH

WOULD THICKEN

THE WAIST OF ISRAEL IF INCLUDED IN NEW BORDERS?

- (C) PLUGGING TWO NEW SETTLEMENTS, INE IN ISRAEL PROPER, IN THE PREVIOUS GAP BETWEEN HEBRON AND BE'ER SHEVA': AND
- (D) CONSOLIDATION OF SETTLEMENTS ON OR NEAR THE JORDAN VALLEY FLOOR.
- 4. WITHIN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, THE LIKUD GOI HAS INITIATED SETTLEMENT AT 12 NEW SITES ON THE WEST BANK. AT THE SAME TIME, IT HAS ESSENTIALLY COMPLETED WORK AT FOUR SITES PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE LABOR GOI. THE LIKUD HAS ESTABLISHED SETTLEMENTS TWICE AS FAST AS THE PREVIOUS LABOR GOI WHICH HAD UNDERTAKEN TO ESTABLISH 11 SETTLEMENTS IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS. SETTLEMENTS UNDER THE LABOR GOVERNMENTS HAD CONFORMED, IN GENERAL, TO THE SECURITY DICTATES OF THE ALLON PLAN ALTHOUGH, FOR HISTORICAL REASONS, A SEPARATE CLUSTER INCLUDING THE ETZION BLOC AND KIRYAT ARBA DEVELOPED IN THE HEBRON AREA. LIKUD SETTLEMENTS HAVE REFLECTED THE GUSH EMUNIM IDEOLOGICAL DEMAND FOR SETTLEMENT THROUGHOUT ERETZ ISRAEL AS WELL AS AGRICULTURAL MINISTER SHARON'S DESIRE TO DIVIDE CONCENTRATIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF ARABS AND LINK THE HEAVILY-POPULATED COAST WITH THE ISRAELI-CONTROLLED JORDAN VALLEY. ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS HAVE LARGELY BEEN IGNORED AS HAVE PREVIOUS PREFERENCES AGAINST SETTLEMENT IN DENSELY-POPULATED AREAS. WHILE A DEFINITE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO SETTLE WITHIN CONFINES OF EXISTING MILITARY CAMPS AND AVOID--AT LEAST INITIALLY--EXPROPRIATIONS, SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN SITED ON PURELY CIVILIAN SITES AS NECESSARY.

5. AT LEAST EIGHT ADDITIONAL SITES HAVE BEEN PROPOSED BY ISRAELI SETTLEMENT GROUPS OR AGENCIES. NOT ALL OF THESE WILL NECESSARILY BE SETTLED. INDEED, FUTURE SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY WILL PROBABLY BE DIRECTED AT CONSOLIDATION AT EXISTING SITES AND BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE, RATHER THAN SETTLEMENT AT ANY LARGE NUMBER OF NEW SITES. THIS WILL NOT BE AN EASY PROCESS AT GUSH EMUNIM SITES BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY STRATEGIC/POLITICAL CRITERIA RATHER THAN ECONOMIC/SOCIAL ONES. SUCCESS IS MORE LIKELY IN THE JORDAN VALLEY WHERE ISRAELI ROOTS ARE BEING SUNK EVER DEEPER.

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### 6. SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE LIKUD GOI.

NAME ESTABLISHED TYPE AFFILIATION SAL'IT (TZUR AUG 1977 NAHAL/INDUSTRIAL LABOR

NATHAN B) COLLECTIVE MOSHAVIM

REIHAN (MEI AUG 1977 NAHAL ILP

AMIT B)

SHAYELET SEPT 1977 MOSHAV IL (?)

(COMMENT: IN NO MAN'S LAND)

KFAR RUT SEPT 1977 MOSHAV POALEI

(BE'ER TAL) AGVAT

(COMMENT: IN NO MAN'S LAND) ISRAEL (B)

SANUR (DOTHAN) OCT 1977 ARMY CAMP/ GUSH EMUNIM

SETTLEMENT

SHOMRON OCT 1977 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM

SETTLEMENT

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NABI SALIH NOV 1977 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM

SETTLEMENT

BEIT EL NOV 1977 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM

SETTLEMENT

GIV'ON DEC 1977 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM
HORON DEC 1977 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM
ZOHAR DEC 1977 NAHAL LABOR
HARIS FEB 1978 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM
SETTI EMENT

SETTLEMENT

QARNEI SHOMRON FEB 1978 ARMY CAMP GUSH EMUNIM

SETTLEMENT

TAPUAH JAN 1978 ARMY CAMP NO CIVILIAN

SETTLEMENT PRESENCE AS YET

NAHAL MA'ALE JAN 1978 ARMY CAMP NO CIVILIAN PRESENC

E AS YET

(SILAT AZ ZAHAR) SETTLEMENT

SHILO JAN 1978 ARCHEOLOGICAL GUSH EMUNIM

DIG".

NEWLIN

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